

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FT, XA

SUBJECT: FRENCH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON INDEPENDENCES
FOR TERRITORY OF AFARS AND ISSAS

1. ONE DAY AFTER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GISCARD D'ESTAING
AND ALI AREF, FRENCH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS ISSUED
FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THE SUB-
JECT OF INDEPENDENCE FOR TERRITORY OF AFARS AND ISSAS.
(EMBASSY TRANSLATION).

2. BEGIN STATEMENT: "THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AFFIRMS
ITS DETERMINATION TO GRANT INDEPENDENCE TO THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT OF THE AFARS AND ISSAS AND TO DEVELOP THE
MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE.

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"CONSCIOUS OF HAVING CONTRIBUTED TO THE PEACEFUL

EQUILIBRIUM OF THE REGION THROUGH ITS PRESENCE IN
DJIBOUTI, FRANCE BELIEVES THAT IT MUST ASSURE THE
ACCESSION OF THE TERRITORY TO SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE
BY MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF ITS FRONTIERS AND BY
ASSURING THE SECURITY AND DIGNITY OF ITS POPULATIONS.
THE GOVERNMENT IS READY TO GUARANTEE ITS INTEGRITY AND
ITS SECURITY.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO SEEK THE NECESSARY GUARANTEES
FROM THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE DIRECTLY INTERESTED AS
WELL AS FROM THE APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL OR
REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT
INVITES, IN THE CONTEXT OF LOCAL INSTITUTIONS, THE
RESPONSIBLE POLITICAL LEADERS OF THE TERRITORY TO
DEFINIE TOGETHER THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC
PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHTS OF THE
MINORITIES. FINALLY, THE GOVERNMENT IS DISPOSED TO
AUGMENT THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES OF THE FUTURE STATE
BY MAINTAINING ITS ROLE AS A MARITIME OUTLET FOR
THAT PART OF EAST AFRICA, AND BY ASSURING THAT ITS
GUARANTEES OF COMMUNICATION AND MONETARY EXCHANGE BE
PRESERVED.

"BY ASSURING THE POPULATION OF THE TERRITORY OF ITS
RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, THE GOVERNMENT WILL
DEVELOP SOLUTIONS OF THE TYPE THAT WILL ASSURE THE
NEW STATE, IN THE BEST CONDITIONS, OF ITS PLACE IN
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS WELL AS ITS
DEVELOPMENT IN A CONTEXT OF FRIENDSHIP AND
COOPERATION WITH FRANCE." END STATEMENT.
GAMMON

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